

# **DEVON & CORNWALL COCKER SPANIEL CLUB**

## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at Culm Valley Sports Hall, Meadow Lane, Cullompton, Devon EX15 1LL following judging of the Championship Show**

**Present:** Chairman: Mr A. Reed, Vice Chair: Mr F Bard, Secretary: Miss S. Ellison; Mrs J Norris, Miss J Norris, Mrs Kimberley Wannell, Mrs Jennie Sweet, Miss J King, Mrs V Sheppard, Miss H Dewhurst, Mrs P Meaker, Mr C Flowers, Mrs V Flowers

1. **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from Mr S Kew, Mrs J Kew and Mrs S Leeding

2. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021**

On a proposition by Mrs F Bard seconded by Mrs J Sweet the minutes of the 2021 AGM were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. **Matters arising** There were no matters arising.

4. **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman said it was good to be physically together for an AGM after two years of virtual meetings.

Having had nearly two years without shows and events – we were finally able to hold a Championship Show in conjunction with Paignton and District. It was a first and new way for the Club to have this combined show – it was a great success and he felt a good way for the club to move forward, offering a better situation for our exhibitors and a more financially sensible situation for the Club.

The Club had moved quickly into the November Open show – and again it was great to see many of our local exhibitors back with us at a new venue.

We had successfully kept the finances of the club secure even with the pressure put on us over the last two years – this was a true testament to the Committee and Members.

In 2022 we celebrate 40 years of the Devon and Cornwall – a real milestone – keeping Devon and Cornwall (and others) at the heart of the breed.

The Chairman wished to take this opportunity to thank the Members for their continued support and the Committee for the dedication and commitment they show for the continuation of the club and the support of our dear breed.

5. **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary presented her report thanking Members for attending the AGM – it was pleasing to be reverting to normal human behaviour after the hiatus of the last couple of years and it was good to be out and about without restriction.

At the last Zoom AGM she had reported the KC were in the process of conducting a review of future allocation of CC's. With falling entries, there was uncertainty surrounding future Championship Status of the Club. As it transpired the Club retained its CC status on the existing rotation system. The changes made by the Kennel Club to CC allocation were to award additional sets of CC's, with Coventry and Home Counties gaining annual Championship Shows and East of Scotland awarded CC Status on rotation. The CC allocation would be reviewed again after a number of years.

Having been obliged to cancel the Club Championship Show in 2020, we had rescheduled and held an August Ch Show in conjunction with Paignton DFAss – in line with the KC proposals. The KC was keen to see Breed Clubs holding their Shows in 'Partnership' with local General Ch Shows – the idea being that this would encourage entries and reduce costs. The Committee believed that so far as the Ch Show was concerned this could well be the way forward as the cost of venues is prohibitive and exhibitors travelling down to the West Country would be encouraged by having the chance of two sets of tickets on one trip.

Our November Open Show took place at Uplowman Village Hall – a new Show venue which was well received being light and modern with easy access from the M5. Hopefully this venue would encourage exhibitors from further afield. The entry had been modest, as might be expected, but both judges and exhibitors enjoyed their day. We would be returning to this venue for the foreseeable future.

On 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022 the Club combined with West of England and South Wales & Mon Cocker Spaniel Clubs to hold a Breed Appreciation Day and Multiple Choice exam. Under the Judges Education Programme (JEP) Breed Clubs were required to hold a BAD every two years. With the number of Cocker Breed Clubs it was practical to conduct a joint seminar in order to comply with the KC requirement. On this occasion Devon & Cornwall took the admin' roll and we would expect WofEng or SW&Mon to do so in 2024. On the whole the Seminar was a success with breed specialist Michael Masters presenting the Breed Standard. 27 Candidates had applied with 22 taking the MCE – 14 candidates were successful.

With Judges education to the fore under the KC JEP, the Secretary said she would expect the Club to host other educational events. Members should keep their eyes on the Club Facebook page – which was kept up to date by Fran with interesting 'posts'!

The Club would be Supporting the Cocker Classes at Torquay DCS in November this year and going forward SWGC on an annual basis.

If Members did not already know they would be pleased to learn that Cockers had reverted to Stud Book Band E.

As Members were aware we had a small committee who work hard to keep the Club to the fore in the Breed. We are pleased to see new Members exhibiting and taking part at our shows and events.

The Secretary thanked all Members for their continued support.

#### **6. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer presented the audited accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021, copies having been circulated. The Balance Sheet reflected a healthy account with surplus for the year of £1,223.69 and cash at Barclays Bank amounting to £4,478.01.

The Accounts were accepted unanimously.

#### **7. Appointment of Auditor for 2022**

The Treasurer confirmed that the Auditor, Mr J.H. Angus, had agreed to carry out the audit of the accounts for the coming year. The appointment was unanimously approved.

#### **8. Review of Honoraria**

The Honoraria to be paid for the year ended 2021 had been confirmed at £350.00 for the Secretary and £200.00 for the Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer were asked to leave the room in order that the meeting discuss the Honoraria to be awarded for the year ended 31.12.2022. After discussion Honoraria were confirmed at £375.00 for the Secretary and £200.00 for the Treasurer. On this occasion the Treasurer declined his Honoraria.

#### **9. Proposed up-dates and amendments to the Constitution (in red):**

3. **Membership** The membership shall not be limited by number. Candidates for membership shall be accepted on payment of subscription subject to the approval of the Committee. Members are expected to abide by *such Regulations as may be issued from time to time by the Kennel Club, including the KC Code of Ethics and the Breed Specific Guidelines issued by the Breed Council and supported by this Club.*

#### **11. Meetings**

a) The Annual General Meeting of The Club shall be held before the end of May each year. Twenty eight clear days notice shall be ~~sent and/or displayed in the Our Dogs/Dog World, publication given~~ to members. Items for the agenda must be made available to the Secretary fourteen clear days before the meeting. Copies of the agenda are to be made available on request from the Secretary seven clear days before the meeting. No business shall be transacted at the AGM other than business published in the notice which shall also include the date, time and place of meeting, except matters deemed urgent by the Chairman. Nominations for new Officers and Committee members should be lodged with the Secretary in writing, no later than 14 days prior to the AGM and nominations from the floor will not be accepted. Ten Members shall form a quorum.

13. **Shows & Matches Events:** The organisation of shows, events and matches with other clubs or societies *in the region* shall be at the discretion of the Committee and the venue shall remain within the county boundaries of Devon, Cornwall and Somerset. *Any Educational event or seminar, required by Kennel Club Regulation and presented jointly with another Breed Club, may take place at a venue and location to be chosen by the 'organizing' Breed Club.*

The Secretary said the proposed amendments were designed to keep the Constitution in line with KC requirements. However the amendment of Clause 13 would allow educational events, required by the Kennel Club under its Judges Educational Programme, to be held outside the County boundaries in conjunction with other Breed Clubs.

On a proposition by Mrs F Bard, Seconded by Joy Norris, the amendments were approved.

**10. Election of Officers and Committee**

The following Honorary Officers and the Committee were proposed without contest for election en-bloque:

**President:** Vacant

**Chairman:** Mr A Reed –

**Vice- Chairman:** Mrs F Bard

**Treasurer:** Mr A Reed –

**Secretary:** Miss S Ellison –

**Committee,**

Miss J King; Mrs V Sheppard; Miss Kimberley Wannell; Miss Joy Norris; Mrs Jennie Sweet

On a proposal by Joy Norris, seconded b Hazel Dewhurst, the Honorary Officers and Committee were unanimously confirmed in post.

**11. Any Other business:** there was no other business.

**12. Close of meeting –**

The Chairman thanked members for attending and the meeting closed at 5.00 pm.

Signed ..... Chairman

Dated .....2022